

Add the following claims:

41. (New) A chimeric pIX protein having at least one adenoviral pIX domain and a non-native amino acid sequence encoding an antigen, wherein the non-native amino acid sequence constitutes the C-terminus of the chimeric pIX protein or is located internally within the chimeric pIX protein.
42. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 41, wherein at least one adenoviral pIX domain consists essentially of an adenoviral pIX peptide sequence truncated at the C-terminus.
43. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 41, wherein at least one adenoviral pIX domain consists essentially of an adenoviral pIX peptide sequence truncated at the N-terminus.
44. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 41, comprising a first adenoviral pIX domain consisting essentially of an adenoviral pIX peptide sequence truncated at the C-terminus and a second adenoviral pIX domain consisting essentially of an adenoviral pIX peptide sequence truncated at the N-terminus.
45. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 44, wherein the first and the second adenoviral pIX domains do not share any common peptide sequences.
46. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 44, wherein a spacer peptide domain separates the first and the second adenoviral pIX domains.
47. (New) The chimeric pIX protein of claim 41, having only one adenoviral pIX domain consisting essentially of a full-length adenoviral pIX peptide sequence.
48. (New) A nucleic acid encoding the chimeric pIX protein of claim 41.